

progressive journals, and noncommercial listener-supported radio in its early years, notably Radio Station KPFA and the Pacifica Foundation.

After Ruth's death in 1994, Steven created the Arkay Foundation as a tribute to her memory. The foundation supports innovative civil, environmental, and health care programs. He was a strong advocate for alternative medicine and helped naturopaths become licensed in California. He also promoted the use of vitamin C and megavitamin therapy for physical and mental illnesses. Remaining remarkably energetic himself, he led this foundation up to the end of his life.

However, he was best known for his progressive style of politics and commitment to the Democratic Party. He believed passionately that individuals could make a difference both at the local and national level by supporting political change. He also believed that songs could change the world. Steve was most proud of his early discovery of Woody Guthrie while filming a documentary in Oregon. Woody's part in producing was what he liked to call "art with a social message."

Madam Speaker, the life of Stephen Kahn was full of joy and purpose. He directly impacted the lives of thousands of people who came to respect, admire, and love him. I offer condolences to his two children Karen Kahn and Robert Kahn, his stepson David Goldschmidt; and the rest of his family. Stephen's passion, energy and wonderful spirit will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

HONORING MR. BOB IANNAONE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bob Iannaone as he retires from his position as Director of Economic Development for the Williamson County Economic Development Council.

Since he first assumed this responsibility in 1991, Bob has been instrumental in attracting corporations looking for a place to relocate and encouraging the expansion and growth of existing Williamson County companies. Together, these efforts have had an impact of approximately one billion dollars to the local economy. Through innovative marketing strategies, including the award-winning Economic Development Showcase program, Bob has ensured that corporate leaders around the country and around the world know that Williamson County is a great place to do business, and a great place to live.

A proud veteran of the United States Air Force, Bob Iannaone has also served our community through his work with multiple non-profit civic organizations and has impacted countless lives. Again, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Bob for his contributions to our nation and to Tennessee. I'm certain that his wife, Pat, children and grandchildren are all proud of the outstanding work he has done to improve not just the economy, but the quality of life in Williamson County.

HONORING JACK O'CONNELL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jack O'Connell on the occasion of his retirement as President and CEO of the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island, Inc. For over 30 years, Mr. O'Connell has tirelessly served the area's poor and vulnerable children, families and individuals. Mr. O'Connell began his career with the Health and Welfare Council in 1976 and has served as the organization's chief executive since 1988.

Mr. O'Connell was instrumental in creating the first ever studies of hunger and homelessness on Long Island in 1984 and 1985. Mr. O'Connell's other accomplishments on behalf of the poor are too numerous to name, but they include initiating the Child Health Plus Facilitated Enrollment Consortium, a program that has enrolled more than 30,000 Long Islanders into Child and Family Health Plus; organizing Long Island's social services response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001; and the organization of advocacy coalitions that helped give a voice to the poor and hungry.

Mr. O'Connell has been a tremendous asset to Long Island, and particularly to the people he has helped bring out of the shadows through his work. The future of this country depends on the well-being of our children and families, and the contributions of talented, passionate and committed public servants like Jack O'Connell.

SHUTTLE "ATLANTIS" LAUNCH

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to recognize John "Danny" Olivas, who, with the launch of the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* this past Friday, became the first El Pasoan to enter space.

Astronaut Olivas worked his way through the El Paso school system, and, upon graduating from Burges High School, went on to receive a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Texas at El Paso, an M.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Houston, and, finally, a doctorate in mechanical engineering and materials science from Rice University.

Beyond being the first El Pasoan in space, Astronaut Olivas is also one of only a handful of minorities, and even fewer Hispanics, to participate in a Shuttle mission. The importance of Mr. Olivas' participation in this space flight is underscored by the lack of minorities in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math. According to the U.S. Census, as of 2000, only 4.4 percent of jobs related to science and engineering were held by African Americans, with only 3.4 percent being held by Hispanics. It is estimated that by 2050, over 50 percent of the population under the age of 18 will be a racial or ethnic minority. It is imperative that we work to engage our minority populations in these fields.

In the face of growing foreign competition from technology sectors in India, Japan, and China, among others, it is increasingly important that we support opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math. Advancing our understanding of these areas guarantees the vitality of our nation as a whole by ensuring that our country remains a leader of technological innovation and economic competitiveness. In creating opportunities for minorities, we ensure that the face of our high-tech workforce reflects the true face of America, and that our face in space echoes our face on Earth.

I have long supported NASA in its pursuit of greater understanding of the universe through exploration. Supporting NASA creates not only opportunities for people like Mr. Olivas, but also tangible benefits that affect our everyday life. Airmen and -women flying training maneuvers over El Paso's Fort Bliss-Biggs Army Airfield, and Army PATRIOT units deployed at home and overseas, use technology developed by NASA. Additionally, the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, where Astronaut Olivas first developed his fascination with space exploration at the age of seven, provides jobs for Texas, and, in doing so, fuels our local economies through tourism and contracting. As Astronaut Olivas noted in a recent interview, NASA itself is like a rocket engine: hundreds of thousands of small parts, working in tandem within the machinery of our Nation to fuel the engine of progress.

Having met Danny Olivas on a number of occasions, I applaud the example he encapsulates; wish him and the whole crew of *Atlantis* a safe return; and look forward to a successful mission!

WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOR

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate World Day Against Child Labor. Today serves to remind us of the exploitation of child workers around the world and to encourage us to act as global leaders in ending these atrocities.

I learned of the brutal working conditions of children who labored in the cocoa fields through a series of articles published by Knight Ridder several years ago. One young boy, Aly Diabate, told how he was sold into slavery when he was barely four feet tall. He said, "Some of the bags were taller than me. It took two people to put the bag on my head. And when you didn't hurry, you were beaten. The beatings were a part of my life. Any time they loaded you with bags and you fell while carrying them, no one helped you. Instead, they beat you and beat you until you picked it up again."

In response to stories like these, I, along with Senator TOM HARKIN, authored the Harkin-Engel Protocol to hold chocolate companies accountable to American consumers and the global community. The Harkin-Engel Protocol provides for the development and implementation of industry-wide global standards for the growing of cocoa beans and the manufacturing of chocolate products that are sold in